pectively, whereat suitable train connections are available for these places.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in every district

264. Dr. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the districts in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the target date to complete this scheme?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) So far, 105 K.V.Ks have been established in 103 districts in the country. No target date has been fixed for establishing one K.V.K. per district as presently due to dearth of financial resources no more KVKs are being opened.

Redressal of Consumers complaints

265. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Mnister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to protect the interests of consumers at National, State and District levels;

(b) the number of districts where arrangements have been made to redress the consumers complaints, State-wise; and

(c) what is the outcome of the steps taken to educate the consumers in small towns, rural areas and remote hill areas to enable them to protect themselves from unfair trade practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) To protect the interests of the consumers, the Government has brought into force the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 which envisages a three tier quasi judicial redressal machinery at national, state and district level. In addition, certain legislations such as Essential Commodities Act, 1955, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 etc. have been amended to empower consumers to file complaints in the Court. Hitherto, such powers were vested in the Government officials only.

(b) As per information available with Government, the district level redressal agencies *i.e.* District Forums have started functioning in 16 States/UTs, namely, Andhra Pradesh (23 District Forums), Bihar (District Forum), Gujarat (3 District Forums), Goa (1 District Forum), Haryana (2 District Forums). Himachal Pradesh (1 District Forum), Maharashtra (1 District Forum), Orissa (13 District Forums), Rajasthan (6 District Forums), Uttar Pradesh (12 District Forums), West Bengal (3 District Forums), Andaman and Nicobar Islands (2 District Forums), Chandigarh (1 District Forum), Delhi (1 District Forum), Pondicherry (1 District Forum) and Karnataka (4 District Forums). In addition 11 States/UTs have notified the redressal machinery and approval of the Central Government have been conveyed to the remaining 4 States.

(c) As a result of various measures taken by the Government and the Voluntary Organisation an alert consumer is slowly emerging on the scene who is aware of his rights as a consumer.

Sharing of cost of operating calculations Adjudication and enforcement machineries

266. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Labour Minister has urged the Central Government to meet 50 per cent of the actual cost of operating the calculation adjudication and enforcement machineries by the labour departments of respective States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Labour Minister of Kerala has proposed that the Government of India should meet the cost of strengthening the conciliation, adjudication and enforcement Machineries at best to the extent of 50 per cent of the actual cost. There is no scheme at present with the Central Government to accommodate such a request.

Setting up of Consumer Courts in the country

267. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has called for immediate setting up of "fora" popularly known as Consumer Courts in all the districts for the redressal of grievances of consumers as envisaged in the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up the Consumer Courts in all the districts in view of call by ASSOCHAM; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under Consumer Protection Act, 1986, the responsibility of setting up Consumer Disputes Redressel Forum (to be known as District Forums) in each district, rests with the State Governments and UT Administrations. The Central Government has already written to all the States/UTs to expedite the setting up of District Forums in each districts.

थोक एवं खुदरा मूल्य सूचकांक में वृद्धि

208. डा० अबरार अहमद खान: क्या खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नवम्बर, 1989 के अन्त में आवश्यक खाद्य वस्तुओं के खुदरा और थोक मूल्य सूचकांक अलग-अलग क्या थे और 30 अप्रैल, 1990 की स्थिति के अनुसार इन वस्तुओं का मूल्य सूचकांक क्या है ; इन पांच महीनों के दौरान किन-किन वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में वृद्धि हुई है और किन-किन वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में कमी आई है और यह वृद्धि या कमी कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में हुई है ,

(ख) उपरोक्त मूल्यों और थोक एवं खुदरा मूल्य सूचकांकों में वृद्धि या कमी होने के क्या कारण थे और बढ़ी हुई कीमतों को कब तक कम कर दिया जाएगा और सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं ; और

(ग) 30 अप्रैल, 1990 को समाप्त होने वाले पांच महीनों के दौरान भवन निर्माण के उपयोग में आने वाली सामग्री जैसे ईंट, सीमेंट, लोहा, इस्पात पत्थर चूना, लकड़ी बिजली का समान और श्रम के मूल्यों में कितनी वृद्धि या कमी हुई है और इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

खाद्य और नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम पूजन पटेल) : (क) एक विवरण अनुपत्र में दिया गया है, जिसमें 25-11-1989 तथा 14-4-1990 को चुनी वस्तुओं के थोक मूल्य सूचकांक, इस अवधि के दौरान प्रत्येक वस्तु के मामले में उनमें हुई वृद्धि तथा कमी और चुनी वस्तुओं के नवम्बर, 1989 तथा फरवरी, 1990 में खुदरा मूल्य सूचकांक, इन तीन महीनों के दौरान प्रत्येक वस्तु के मामले में उनमें हुई वृद्धि या कमी दर्शाई गई है (देखिए परिशिष्ट CLIV, अनुपत्र सं० 15)